

residues); animal waste and byproducts (including fats, oils, greases, and manure); and food waste and yard waste.

Research and development (R&D) projects means a research project only, a development project only, or a combination of research and development project; however, an R&D project may not be submitted including a demonstration project or vice versa.

Semi-works is a combination of chemical processing units that constitute a subset of the fully integrated system and are used to develop process flow diagrams and mass and energy balances for the purposes of scaling up to a demonstration scale facility.

Transportation fuel means fuel for use in motor vehicles, motor vehicle engines, non-road vehicles, or non-road engines (except for ocean-going vessels).

[75 FR 33498, June 14, 2010, as amended at 76 FR 38549, July 1, 2011]

§ 3430.703 Eligibility.

To be eligible to receive an award under this subpart, the recipient shall be—

- (a) An institution of higher education (as defined in § 3430.702);
- (b) A National Laboratory;
- (c) A Federal research agency;
- (d) A State research agency;
- (e) A private sector entity (as defined in § 3430.702 of this part);
- (f) A nonprofit organization; or
- (g) A consortium of two or more entities listed in paragraphs (a) through (f) of this section.

§ 3430.704 Project types and priorities.

(a) *Technical Topic Areas.* Biomass Research and Development Initiative (BRDI) awards shall be directed (in consultation with the Biomass Research and Development Board, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and heads of other appropriate departments and agencies) in the following three primary technical topic areas:

(1) *Feedstocks Development.* Research, development, and demonstration activities regarding feedstocks and feedstock logistics (including the harvest, handling, transport, preprocessing, and storage) relevant to production of raw

materials for conversion to biofuels and biobased products.

(2) *Biofuels and Biobased Products Development.* Research, development, and demonstration activities to support—

(i) The development of diverse cost-effective technologies for the use of cellulosic biomass in the production of biofuels and biobased products; and

(ii) Product diversification through technologies relevant to production of a range of biobased products (including chemicals, animal feeds, and cogenerated power) that potentially can increase the feasibility of fuel production in a biorefinery.

(3) *Biofuels Development Analysis—(i) Strategic Guidance.* The development of analysis that provides strategic guidance for the application of renewable biomass technologies to improve sustainability and environmental quality, cost effectiveness, security, and rural economic development.

(ii) *Energy and Environmental Impact.* Development of systematic evaluations of the impact of expanded biofuel production on the environment (including forest land) and on the food supply for humans and animals, including the improvement and development of tools for life cycle analysis of current and potential biofuels.

(iii) *Assessment of Federal Land.* Assessments of the potential of Federal land resources to increase the production of feedstocks for biofuels and biobased products, consistent with the integrity of soil and water resources and with other environmental considerations.

(b) *Additional considerations.* Within the technical topic areas described in paragraph (a) of this section, NIFA, in cooperation with DOE, shall support research and development to—

(1) Create continuously expanding opportunities for participants in existing biofuels production by seeking synergies and continuity with current technologies and practices;

(2) Maximize the environmental, economic, and social benefits of production of biofuels and derived biobased products on a large scale; and

(3) Facilitate small-scale production and local and on-farm use of biofuels, including the development of smallscale gasification technologies for

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production of biofuel from cellulosic feedstocks.

[75 FR 33498, June 14, 2010, as amended at 76 FR 38549, July 1, 2011]

§ 3430.705 Funding restrictions.

(a) *Facility costs.* Funds made available under this subpart shall not be used for the construction of a new building or facility or the acquisition, expansion, remodeling, or alteration of an existing building or facility (including site grading and improvement, and architect fees).

(b) *Indirect costs.* Subject to §3430.54, indirect costs are allowable for Federal assistance awards made by NIFA.

(c) *Minimum allocations.* After consultation with the Board, NIFA in cooperation with DOE, shall require that each of the three technical topic areas described in §3430.704(a) receives not less than 15 percent of funds made available to carry out BRDI.

[76 FR 38549, July 1, 2011]

§ 3430.706 Matching requirements.

(a) *Requirement for Research and/or Development Projects.* The non-Federal share of the cost of a research or development project under BRDI shall be not less than 20 percent. NIFA may reduce the non-Federal share of a research or development project if the reduction is determined to be necessary and appropriate.

(b) *Requirement for Demonstration and Commercial Projects.* The non-Federal share of the cost of a demonstration or commercial project under BRDI shall be not less than 50 percent.

(c) *Indirect costs.* Use of indirect costs as in-kind matching contributions is subject to §3430.52 of this part.

[75 FR 33498, June 14, 2010, as amended at 76 FR 38549, July 1, 2011]

§ 3430.707 Administrative duties.

(a) After consultation with the Board, NIFA, in cooperation with DOE, shall:

(1) Publish annually one or more joint requests for proposals for Federal assistance under BRDI; and

(2) Require that Federal assistance under BRDI be awarded based on a scientific peer review by an independent panel of scientific and technical peers.

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(b) NIFA, in cooperation with DOE, shall ensure that applicable research results and technologies from the BRDI are:

(1) Adapted, made available, and disseminated, as appropriate; and

(2) Included in the best practices database established under section 1672C(e) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5925e(e)).

[75 FR 33498, June 14, 2010, as amended at 76 FR 38549, July 1, 2011]

§ 3430.708 Review criteria.

(a) *General.* BRDI peer reviews of applications are conducted in accordance with requirements found in section 9008 of FSRIA (7 U.S.C. 8108); section 103 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7613); and regulations found in title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations, sections 3430.31 through 3430.37.

(b) *Additional Considerations.* Special consideration will be given to applications that—

(1) Involve a consortium of experts from multiple institutions;

(2) Encourage the integration of disciplines and application of the best technical resources; and

(3) Increase the geographic diversity of demonstration projects.

[75 FR 33498, June 14, 2010, as amended at 76 FR 38549, July 1, 2011]

§ 3430.709 Duration of awards.

The term of a Federal assistance award made for a BRDI project shall not exceed 5 years. No-cost extensions of time beyond the maximum award terms will not be considered or granted.

Subpart L [Reserved]

Subpart M—New Era Rural Technology Competitive Grants Program

SOURCE: 74 FR 45973, Sept. 4, 2009, unless otherwise noted.